

WE CLAIMS:

1. A reduction inhibitory agent for active-oxygen eliminating activity, which comprises trehalose as an effective ingredient.

2. The inhibitory agent of claim 1, which further contains a saccharide other than said trehalose.

3. The inhibitory agent of claim 1, which contains pullulan and/or cyclodextrin.

4. The inhibitory agent of claim 1, which contains at least 20 w/w % of said trehalose, on a dry solid basis.

5. A method for inhibiting the reduction of active-oxygen-eliminating activity, which comprises incorporating the inhibitory agent of claim 1, into a plant substance with active-oxygen eliminating activity in an aqueous-system.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein said plant substance ^{in juicy form} is a plant edible substance ~~and/or a plant antioxidant~~.

7. The method of claim 5, wherein said plant edible substance is in the form of a sliced, disrupted, pulverized, dried, or extracted plant-edible-part.

8. The method of claim 6, wherein said plant antioxidant is a member selected from the group consisting of plant enzymes, pigments, polyphenols, and vitamins.

9. The method of claim 5, wherein at least about one w/w %, on a dry solid basis, of said trehalose ~~as an effective ingredient~~ is incorporated into said plant substance.

10. The method of claim 5, which ^{further comprise} contains a

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sterilization step and/or a drying step.

11. A composition obtainable by incorporating said inhibitory agent of claim 1 into a plant substance with active-oxygen eliminating activity to inhibit the reduction of said activity.

12. The composition of claim 11, wherein said plant substance is a plant edible substance and/or a plant antioxidant.

13. The composition of claim 12, wherein said plant edible substance is an organ and/or tissue of an edible plant, or a sliced, disrupted, pulverized, dried, pickled, or extracted plant-edible-part.

14. The composition of claim 12, wherein said plant antioxidant is a member selected from the group consisting of plant enzymes, pigments, polyphenols, and vitamins.

15. The composition of claim 11, which contains at least about one w/w %, on a dry solid basis, of said trehalose as an effective ingredient.

16. The composition of claim 11, which contains said trehalose in an amorphous or crystalline hydrous form.

17. The composition of claim 11, which contains one or more members selected from the group consisting of essential minerals, edible fibers, growth-promoting saccharides for bifid bacteria, vitamins, and biologically active substances.

18. The composition of claim 11, which has been received a sterilization step and/or a drying step.

19. The composition of claim 11, which has active-oxygen eliminating activity of at least five units/g

composition, on a dry solid basis, as determined by the nitroblue tetrazolium test.

20. The composition of claim 11, which is in the form of a food product, cosmetic, pharmaceutical, or their material or intermediate.

21. A food product, cosmetic, or pharmaceutical, into which said composition of claim 11 is incorporated.

22. A composition into which at least about 30 w/w % of trehalose is incorporated into an edible plant tissue, on a dry solid basis.

23. The composition of claim 22, wherein said edible plant tissue is a member selected from the group consisting of an edible plant's organs and tissues, and their sliced and pickled products where trehalose is incorporated into said edible plant tissue in an amorphous or crystalline hydrous form.

24. The composition of claim 22, which has been received a sterilization and/or drying steps.

25. The composition of claim 22, which is in the form of a solid food product.

26. The composition of claim 25, wherein said solid food product is for enjoying a satisfactory biting property.

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